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Date: February 13, 1997

To: Umbrella Team Members (See Attached Distribution List)

From: Cindy Darling  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Subject: Implementation Strategy and Request for participation

CALFED is developing a five year ecosystem restoration work plan which will be used to develop coordinated, integrated restoration actions in the Bay-Delta ecosystem. This work plan will be used to guide the selection of projects to be funded from a variety of sources including stakeholder, and state and federal contributions to Category III. CALFED would like your assistance in several important steps in developing this work plan due to your interest and involvement in the restoration of the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

As you may know, Proposition 204 included \$60 million in funding for the state share of Category III restoration actions, as stated in the 1994 Bay-Delta Accord. In addition, the President's Budget proposes \$143 million for federal FY 98 for ecosystem restoration actions. These funds, along with other existing sources of funds, are going to provide us with significant opportunities to implement major restoration projects in the Bay-Delta ecosystem. Along with this opportunity, there will also be challenges associated with identifying the high priority projects and the appropriate funding sources, getting the projects planned, permitted and implemented, and then evaluating them to see if they are fulfilling their promise.

To help CALFED in this effort, we are asking the umbrella team to (1) review the attached Implementation Strategy, (2) participate in technical team meetings in March, and (3) integrate information from the technical teams and provide advice on allocation of resources.

#### Review of Implementation Strategy

Attached is a draft Implementation Strategy that has been developed to identify the priority habitat types and species for the near term. We would appreciate your technical review of this document. Many of you work for organizations that are represented on the

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#### California

The Resources Agency  
Department of Fish and Game  
Department of Water Resources  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
State Water Resources Control Board

#### CALFED Agencies

#### Federal

Environmental Protection Agency  
Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Department of Commerce  
National Marine Fisheries Service

Umbrella Team Members  
February 13, 1997  
Page Two

Ecosystem Roundtable, which is the stakeholder advisory group for the near-term restoration program. You can provide your comments through your Roundtable representative (see attached list), or you can provide us with written comments by February 19, in advance of the next Ecosystem Roundtable meeting on February 20, 1997.

Participation in Technical Team meetings

Using the Implementation Strategy, technical specialists will be asked for input on what stressors and limiting factors are most affecting the priority species and habitats, and what restoration actions are needed to address the stressors and factors. To make this effort manageable, we have broken the Bay-Delta ecosystem into geographic areas to take advantage of technical experts who have experience in the specific areas. To ensure that there is some continuity between geographic areas and to help with the synthesis of the input from all the areas, we are inviting you to participate in as many of the meetings as your schedule allows. Specific invitations will be sent with details on each meeting and the different meeting schedules are as follows:

- Sacramento River and its tributaries (excluding American River) - March 4-6.
- Delta and Suisun Bay--in March, but date not set
- American River--March 13
- North Bay meeting--in March, but date not set
- Water Quality : We are using the existing CALFED technical team on water quality and their regular meeting will be February 14.

Integration of the Input from the Technical Teams and Allocation of Resources

Once the input from these teams is summarized and all the proposed actions are identified in the work plan, you will be provided an opportunity to review the work plan and provide your comments, especially any input you have on how to allocate funding resources between geographic areas.

While I recognize that this will involve a significant amount of work on your part and that you all have very full calendars, I hope you will be able to assist us in this effort. The rewards should make all the effort worthwhile. Please call me at (916) 653-5950, if you have questions or are unable to participate in this process.

Attachments

cc: Ecosystem Roundtable Members

Distribution List - Umbrella Team Members

Elise Holland - The Bay Institute  
Rod Fujita - Environmental Defense Fund  
Serge Birk - Central Valley Project Water Association  
Bob Nuzum - East Bay Municipal Water District  
Pete Rhoads - Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Peter Moyle - UC Davis  
Chuck Hanson - consultant representing State Water Contractors  
Phil Williams - consultant  
Steve Ford - Department of Water Resources  
Larry Puckett - Department of Fish & Game  
Frank Wernette - Department of Fish & Game  
Bruce Herbold - Environmental Protection Agency  
Jim McKevitt/Roger Guinee - US Fish & Wildlife Service